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September 5, 2000

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Dear Future of Fernald Participant:

I want to thank you for participating in the second Future of Fernald workshop last spring and encourage you to attend the third workshop in this series on September 26 at 6:30 PM, again at the Crosby Senior Center. At this workshop, we will be discussing a draft vision statement for the Future of Fernald that was crafted by the Stewardship committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board based on the results of the second workshop. It is our hope to agree on a vision statement that we can all support. We will also be taking a look at how we might bring that vision about for the Fernald site and the greater community.

I have enclosed a summary transcript of the last meeting and an announcement for the third workshop including a copy of the draft vision statement. We hope to see you on September 26.

Sincerely,

Jim Bierer  
Chair, Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

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## OF FERNALD

THE FUTURE

*The End is Just the Beginning*

# Announcing the 3<sup>rd</sup> Future of Fernald Workshop

**Tuesday, September 26, 2000 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Crosby Senior Center, 8910 Willey Road**

Since the U.S. Government bought 1050 acres of farmland off Willey Road in Fernald, Ohio in 1951, this property has been a symbol of the Cold War effort. For nearly 40 years, the site produced uranium metals for nuclear weapons, in the process contaminating the soil and water throughout the property. For the last decade, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has been working to remediate this contamination and is fast approaching the point where the property can be used by the Fernald community for some public good.

On September 26, 2000, the third in a series of Future of Fernald Workshops is being sponsored by four citizens groups working to bring about the safe remediation of Fernald and a positive future for area residents and the public.

The Future of Fernald Workshops have been designed to provide citizens a direct voice in determining the public activities that will be developed on the Fernald site following remediation. The first workshop was held in April of 1999 to introduce future public use issues to the Fernald community. The second workshop was held in May of 2000 to provide a variety of dialogues to identify those potential future activities at Fernald that are most appealing to the Fernald community. Now we are heading into our 3rd Future of Fernald Workshop.

On May 24, 2000 the 2nd Future of Fernald Workshop conducted dialogs in five different topics: Environmental Education, Cold War and Fernald History, Native American Burials, Recreation, and Community Development. All participants were

able to participate in two topic discussions to express their ideas or opinions on the things they most want to see as possible community assets at the Fernald site and the things they definitely do not want to see at the Fernald site. Discussions were also held on how to generate long-term support and who should be involved in future site activities. After the workshop, the Stewardship committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board evaluated and integrated all the information to create a draft vision statement for the future of Fernald.

Please review this draft statement and join us at the 3rd Future of Fernald Workshop. At this final workshop, we will review and refine this statement and evaluate alternative ways in which we might bring this vision about. If you are unable to attend the meeting on September 26, we still want to hear your comments on the vision statement. Please call, fax, or email your comments to any the contacts below:

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Phone Comments: | 513-648-6478 or 513-648-5277                                  |
| Fax Comments:   | 513-648-3629 or 513-648-4011                                  |
| Email Comments: | vspriggs@theperspectivesgroup.com<br>tisha.patton@fernald.gov |

**Fernald Citizens Advisory Board**

**Fernald Community Reuse Organization**

**Fernald Living History, Inc.**

**Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health**

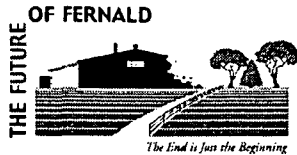
## **A STAKEHOLDER VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF FERNALD, FIRST DRAFT**

Fernald Stakeholders envision a Future for the Fernald property that creates a regional destination for educating this and future generations about the rich and varied history of Fernald. We envision a community resource that serves the ongoing information needs of area residents, education needs of local academic institutions, and a final resting place for Native American remains. We envision a safe, secure, and accessible site, integrated with the surrounding community, that effectively controls all residual contamination and fully maintains all aspects of the ecological restoration.

### **ACHIEVING THE VISION**

We believe that this vision can only be achieved through cooperation among all stakeholders and by recognizing the need to incorporate planning and implementation of future uses with on-site remediation. To achieve this vision, we would like to see the following elements implemented on the Fernald Site:

- Adequate property to provide reinterment of Native American remains in a setting that recognizes the spiritual nature of this activity.
- Controlled access to the ecologically restored areas of the site through a series of marked and annotated trails that can be used for hands-on learning and discovery of indigenous plants and animals.
- Development of an on-property educational center that provides for the following:
  - A complete history of the Fernald area beginning with the first Native American residents continuing through the cold war years when the Fernald site produced feed materials for America's nuclear weapons arsenal, and culminating with the current efforts of site remediation and ecological restoration.
  - Museum-quality displays and related educational programming on the role of Fernald in the cold war and the many impacts of the production of feed materials for nuclear weapons on the lives of area residents and Fernald site workers, as well as the broader social and cultural impacts on the surrounding community.
  - Museum-quality displays and related educational programming on the history of Native Americans in the Fernald region.
  - Permanent housing of the public reading room containing copies of the public record of Fernald production and remediation activities and Fernald Living History materials.
  - Classrooms and auditorium space.
  - Environmental research and groundwater education facilities.
  - Access to real-time environmental monitoring results.
  - Detailed descriptions and displays on the Fernald environmental remediation process and results.



## 2<sup>ND</sup> FUTURE OF FERNALD WORKSHOP RESULTS

The following information listed below is was gathered from individuals who attended the five different breakout groups at the May 24, 2000 2<sup>nd</sup> Future of Fernald Workshop at the Crosby Senior Center. This information is unedited and will be organized as part of a formal report at the conclusion of the Future of Fernald process.

### Environmental Education

**What would you most like to see as possible community assets at the site?**

- Education center
- Restoration
- Remediation
- Observation points with interpretive signs (lots)
- Hands on displays that are easily accessible
- Ecological research station for Universities
- School field trips for entire region
- Historic/Cultural center
- Children/Volunteers to help maintain natural resources
- Tree planting for educational uses
- Hardwood forest/Native plants
- Interactive with local schools
- Stream restoration for Paddys Run
- Need staff on site for regional center that connects to history of site
- Facilities for inside experiments
- Use children from schools for stream monitoring
- Grass to put down for erosion
- Site for restoration of endangered species
- Universities to advise research activity use of facility for research
- Wildlife feeding areas
- County panel systems
- Environmental educational of quality that will make it a regional destination
- Sustainable energy
- Displays of information regarding natural resources
- Facility and field activities
- Use for clean activities
- Museum including natural resources, living history, and cultural resources
- Relationship of Fernald to DOE Complex
- How Native Americans saw and used the environment
- Importance of ground water

**What would you definitely not want to see at the site?**

- Avoid fragmentation of ecological areas
- No activities that may damage ecological restoration
- No night activities
- No livestock grazing
- No designs for site
- No picnic benches in outdoor areas
- Stay away from OSDF
- No hunting/fishing
- No horses
- No camping/picnicing

**How would you like to see these assets managed within the community, where should long-term support come from, who should be involved?**

- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- County
- National Park Service
- U.S. Department of Interior

**Native Americans Burials and Education**

**What would you most like to see as possible community assets at the site?**

- Regional history of the Native Americans
- Remains respectfully held
- Like to see monuments of the Native Americans Area (small plots, trees, bird fields, and access trails)
- Educational sites with background information of site remains
- Be able to identify cultures, trails, etc.
- Be able to display as much information as we know
- Protect Burials
- Get input from tribes that have burials there
- Have land to be set aside for the Native American burials
- Have some type of security on site
- Create knowledge of where these remains are
- Allow tribes to conduct ceremonies
- Recognize existing prehistoric sites
- Recognize spiritual sites
- Communicate to public about the land on the site
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**What would you definitely not want to see at the site?**

- No horses
- No motors
- No vaults
- No commercial facilities that may harm or disturb the site

**How would you like to see these assets managed within the community, where should long-term support come from, who should be involved?**

- National Park Service
- State of Ohio
- County
- Township
- Average Citizen
- Department Energy
- Communities
- State Historic Society

### **Cold War and Fernald History**

**What would you most like to see as possible community assets at the site?**

- Museum/seminars
- Remediation stories
- Production era-models of artifacts
- America at war-cold war
- Timeline of history of area
- Monuments or memorials w/actual machines and buildings
- Interactive facilities
- Personal history-documents/photo's/videos
- Maintenance and monitoring on site
- Fernald archives & nuclear network
- Cold War memorial
- Interactive problem solving
- Staffed facility
- Land lab-outdoor education
- Community control/input
- Museum advisory board
- Technology sharing
- Data storage using technology
- Look for other similar museums
- Involvement of many communities
- Look to congress for help
- University involvement
- Community needs-ownership
- Impact to community-health issues
- PEIC/reading room preservation
- Research center
- Home for Fernald living history materials
- Stewardship program monitored
- Native American history
- Environment education
- History of public involvement
- Restore community pride
- 23 acres expanded

**What would you definitely not want to see at the site?**

- No Politicization
- Controlled by non-community members
- Do not remove or destroy documentation
- Do not destroy green space or disturb
- No absence of recognition

**How would you like to see these assets managed within the community, where should long-term support come from, who should be involved?**

- Museum Board
- Department of Interior (DOI)
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
- Flour Fernald Contractors
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Private Foundations
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR)

**Recreation****What would you most like to see as possible community assets at the site?**

- Link with Shaker Trace Trail (Hiking, Walking, etc.)
- Attraction for tourist dollars
- Hiking trails
- Pools
- Area to fly kites (grassy areas)
- Oversight with security
- Open limited times
- Preservation of serenity
- Bike trails that ties in with existing trails
- Horse trails
- Picnic areas with shelters
- Facility for Fire/EMS to support recreational facilities
- Good access so the patrons are safe
- Native American area set aside to display historical information
- Permitting process for entry (accountability check-in station)
- None-comparative extents
- Ability to have a portion for handicapped accessibility (limited)
- Cross-country skiing
- Proper materials to cover the land
- Bird counts/Bird watching
- Tennis courts
- Soccer fields
- Regional libraries
- Museums
- Turn strictly back to natural setting
- Controlled hunting to manage resources

**What are the things you would definitely not want to see at the site?**

- No biking trails
- No hunting except for management only
- No paved trails with in the perimeter areas
- No rollerblading, bikes, etc.
- No children activities as well as adults activities with exposure
- No industrial development
- No open hunting
- No trails anywhere near On Site Disposal Facility
- No facilities of 24 hours
- No place to fly items
- No activities leading to surface erosion
- No motorized vehicles
- No golf courses
- No public access

**How would you like to see these assets managed within the community, where should long-term support come from, who should be involved?**

- How do we fit all of this on 23 acres?
- Have we looked at parking facilities?
- Cost in making trails and accessible to all
- Security
- Access
- Medical Issues with contamination

**Community Development**

**What would you most like to see as possible community assets at the site?**

- Revenue generating from activities
- Community center (YMCA)
- Educational facilities (Libraries, Tech School, Vocational School, and Museum)
- Multi-purpose Facility (Public reading facility, Aesthetically compatible with surrounding area both inside and outside)
- Communications in structure
- Fire/EMS stations
- Assure adequate access
- Native American museum (may be free standing)
- Site development plan would be integrated with area plans
- Financial services
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**What would you definitely not want to see at the site?**

- No industrial facilities
- No golf courses
- No food services
- No commercial facilities